

## Riverside-Downtown STATION IMPROVEMENTS

## Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

**DATE:** January 17, 2020

TO: Office of Planning and Research Attn: State Clearinghouse P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 F I L E D / P O S T E D

County of Riverside
Peter Aldana
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
E-2020000047

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PROJECT CASE NO./TITLE: Riverside-Downtown Station Improvements Project (Project)

<u>PROJECT LOCATION:</u> The proposed Project is located at the existing Riverside-Downtown Station in the City and County of Riverside at 4066 Vine Street, Riverside, CA 92507.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and Metrolink proposes construction of an additional passenger loading platform, the extension of the existing pedestrian overcrossing bridge and elevator and associated tracks which will allow for two trains to service the station off the BNSF Railway (BNSF) mainline. The proposed track would be required to connect and integrate into the existing station layover tracks on the south side. The Project would also provide additional parking and improved vehicular traffic circulation on the south side of the station. These improvements would improve train meet times without impacting operations on the BNSF.

The scope of work required to complete the proposed Project includes:

- Construction of a new 720-foot center platform
- Construction of new tracks
- Modification of railroad signal system
- Construction of other various ancillary civil and track improvements
- Extension of existing pedestrian overpass, including elevator and ADA access
- Relocation of ADA parking
- Construction of additional parking/modification of existing parking lot on south side of station
- Modification of existing/construction of new pedestrian at-grade rail crossing
- Modification of transit drop-off area
- Construction of sidewalk
- Relocation or protection of utilities, as needed

## **LEAD AGENCY:**

Riverside County Transportation Commission 4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor P.O. Box 12008 Riverside, CA 92502-2208 Attn: David Lewis

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, notice is hereby given to the Office of Planning and Research, responsible and trustee agencies for the proposed Project, the County Clerk, and other

interested persons and agencies that the Riverside County Transportation Commission is the lead agency for the proposed Project, and RCTC plans to oversee preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Project. The purpose of this notice is to solicit guidance from your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. The probable environmental effects of the project discussed in the document are: aesthetic/visual, air quality, archeological/historical, biological resources, drainage/absorption, economic/jobs, flood plain/flooding, geologic/seismic, noise, population/housing balance, public services/facilities, recreation/parks, schools/universities, soil erosion/compaction/grading, toxic/hazardous, traffic/circulation, vegetation, water quality, water supply/groundwater, growth inducement, land use and cumulative effects. Information in that regard should be submitted to this office as soon as possible, but <u>not later than thirty (30) days</u> after receiving this notice.

## PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:

A Scoping Meeting has been scheduled to bring together and resolve concerns of affected federal, State and local agencies, RCTC, and other interested persons; as well as to inform the public of the nature and extent of the proposed Project, and to provide an opportunity to identify the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant effects to be analyzed in depth in the EIR and help eliminate from detailed study issues found not to be important.

The Scoping Meeting is not a public hearing on the merit of the proposed Project and no decision on the proposed Project will be made before certification of the EIR. Public testimony should be limited to identifying issues regarding the proposed Project and potential environmental impacts, which will assist RCTC with the completion of the EIR's environmental analysis. Details of the Scoping Meeting are as follows:

TIME OF SCOPING MEETING:

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

DATE OF SCOPING MEETING:

FEBRUARY 6, 2020

PLACE OF SCOPING MEETING:

ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL 4341 VICTORIA AVE, RIVERSIDE, CA 92507

Please send written correspondence to: Riverside County Transportation Commission P.O. Box 12008 Riverside, CA 92502-2208

Attn: David Lewis

If you have any questions, please contact David Lewis at (951) 787-7970 or via email at dlewis@rctc.org.

Sincerely,

David Lewis

Capital Project Manager

David Lewis

Riverside County Transportation Commission